

Anaheim, Garden Grove, and Santa Ana students admitted to West Point, Naval, and Air Force Academies

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47), the ranking female member on the House Armed Services Committee, today announced the 2011 U.S. Military Academy appointments for the 47th Congressional District of California. This year, five students from the cities of Anaheim, Garden Grove, and Santa Ana received admission to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, U.S. Naval Academy, and U.S. Air Force Academy.

“As a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am proud to support these outstanding young men and women, who come from local communities I represent. Through strong academic achievement and discipline, these students have earned the privilege and honor of receiving an education from America’s military academies. Graduates of these schools include former presidents, top military generals, members of Congress, and many others with distinguished careers. I am thrilled to congratulate this year’s appointees and their families!”

As the Representative of California’s 47th Congressional District, Congresswoman Sanchez can nominate students living in her district who seek admission to U.S. military academies. Candidates must be academically, physically and medically qualified for admission. This year’s appointees include:

Mr. Samuel Sands, graduate of Acaciawood High School in Anaheim, California. Samuel graduated with a cumulative 4.48 GPA and ranked top of his senior class. He is a member of the community service club and is outgoing president of the multimedia club. Samuel will attend West Point Academy this July.

Mr. Luke D. Diaz, graduate of Pacifica High School in Garden Grove, California. Luke is described by his mentors as a self-motivated individual with an enthusiasm to learn. He is also a member of the Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. He looks forward to attending the Naval Academy this summer.

Mr. Joshua Wiesner, graduate of Garden Grove High School in Garden Grove, California.

Joshua has excelled academically, earning honors and completing AP level class work. His athletic abilities in volleyball and track and field have also earned recognition by his teammates and coaches. Joshua has been admitted to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Ryan Thompson, graduate of Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana. In addition to maintaining a 3.8 GPA, Ryan volunteers at Camp ReCreation, a program for adults with special needs and other nonprofits. He has logged over 515 hours of community service in high school. Ryan received admission to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy this year.

Ms. Laivan M. Green, graduate of Lutheran High in Santa Ana, California. Laivan is described as a problem-solver and leader. She has also demonstrated talent in the arts and starred as an actress in a regular school television show. Laivan attended West Point Prep School and has earned admission to West Point Academy.